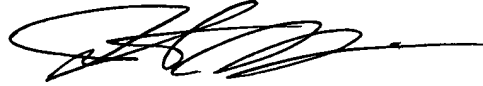


### **REMARKS**

Claim 7 has been amended to correct the incorrect citation of the claim element. It is clear from the specification that a second group of watching circuits observes whether both of the first and second processing devices request access to the memory, based on the first and second processing request signals and the signal representing an observation of the first group of watching circuits and the fourth processing request signal, not the third processing request signal. Therefore, it is not believed that the amendment includes any new matters and affects the scope of each claim. So, entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

It is noted that this Amendment has been prepared using the requested new format. If there are any irregularities in this format, it would be greatly appreciated if Applicant's Counsel would be so advised. Should any fee be further needed, please charge it to our Account No. 50-0945 and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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